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Rohit V. Kapoor

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DILLON & YUDELL LLP
8911 N. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY.,
SUITE 2110
AUSTIN, TX 78759

EXAMINER

LI, SUN M

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/529,988	Applicant(s) KAPOOR ET AL.	
	Examiner SUN LI	Art Unit 3622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is a final action in response to amendments and remarks filed on 9/30/2008.

- Claims 1, 2, 9-12, 15-17, 19-24, and 28 have been amended.
- Therefore, Claims 1-28 are pending and addressed below.

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendments to the claims are sufficient to overcome the 35U.S.C 101 rejections, set forth in the previous office action. Therefore, in response to Applicant's amendment to claim 28, Examiner withdraws rejection under 35U.S.C.101. However, the amended claims 1 and 23 create another ground of 101 rejections addressed below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-20 and 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-17 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Based on Supreme Court precedent, a method/process claim must (1) be tied to another statutory class of invention (such as a particular apparatus) (see at least *Diamond v. Diehr*, 450 U.S. 175, 184 (1981); *Parker*

v. Flook, 437 U.S. 584, 588 n.9 (1978); Gottschalk v. Benson, 409 U.S. 63, 70 (1972); Cochrane v. Deener, 94 U.S. 780, 787-88 (1876)) or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or materials) to a different state or thing (see at least Gottschalk v. Benson, 409 U.S. 63, 71 (1972)). A method/process claim that fails to meet one of the above requirements is not in compliance with the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101 for patent eligible subject matter. Here the claims fail to meet the above requirements because the steps are neither tied to another statutory class of invention (such as a particular apparatus) nor physically transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or materials) to a different state or thing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 28 recites “into runtime objects used” which renders the claim to be indefinite. It is unclear what it is and how it is used.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20, 21, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lahti et al. (hereinafter Lahti, International Pub. No. WO 98/42173), in view of Kleindienst et al. (US Pub. No. 2004/0019487 A1).

As per claim 1, Lahti discloses a method for generating an SMS business message for processing by a software application comprising the steps of:

- receiving at least one request sent from the mobile recipient in response to the sending of at least one encoded categorized SMS business message to perform a business transaction in a data processing system (Fig.3, p.7, lines 26-33, payment template; transferred as a short message); and

However, Lahti does not explicitly disclose

- sending a list of a plurality of available inbound templates for a SMS business message to a mobile recipient;
- receiving from the mobile recipient a selection of at least one of the available inbound templates from the list;
- generating at least one encoded categorized SMS business message in response to and corresponding to the selection received from the mobile recipient such that the generated at least one encoded categorized SMS business message includes a corresponding inbound template;

- sending the generated at least one encoded categorized SMS business message to the mobile recipient.

Kleindienst teaches multi-modal messaging to allow user to compose, send and retrieve messages using speech or GUI or message templates which are stored in a library of message templates in mobile phones. Users can personalize their messages using the collection of message templates by category and keyword to fit their social interaction need. (Abstract, Fig. 2, Fig. 43, item 43, 44, 45, 49, 50, [0010], composing a message responsive to the user input using on or more message templates, and forwarding the message to a target recipient using a messaging protocol; [0011], the message templates are grouped into one or more categories or sub-categories, wherein each category and sub-category comprises one or more keyword; [0035], Table 1; [0036], Table 2; [0085], select the type of message to send, SMS, by mobile)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Lahti by including the list of predefined message templates that drive most of the messages and limit the grammars and vocabulary errors to input and encode short message easier, less time consuming and less burdensome, as per teachings of Kleindienst.

As per claim 2, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the sending of the generated at least one encoded categorized SMS business message includes transmitting the SMS business message over a network to the mobile recipient (Fig.3, p.7, lines 26-33, transferred as a short message).

As per claim 3, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 2 wherein the SMS business message comprises:

- a message text entry field for alerting the recipient about a commerce event (p.2, line 12, banking service); and
- an encryption string entry field (p.3, lines 25-26, user name, password).

As per claim 4, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 3 wherein the SMS business message further comprises:

- a response indicator label (p.5, line 20, command)
- a recipient data entry field associated with said response indicator label (p.3, line 25, username);
- a recipient authentication indicator label (p.5, line 20, command); and
- a recipient authentication data entry field associated with said recipient authentication indicator label (p.3, line 26, password).

As per claim 5, Lahti further discloses the method of claims 3 wherein said encryption string entry field is adapted to accept communication session identification data (p.6, line 24, verifies; lines 25-26, identified).

As per claim 6, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 5 wherein said session identification data may be used to associate a response to a sent message (p.6, line 26, authorized to use).

As per claim 7, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 6 wherein said session identification data may be used to identify a software application to process a response to a sent message (p.6, line 29-30, database language, response).

As per claim 8, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 3 wherein said encryption string entry field is adapted to accept security data (p.10, line 33, receiver's secret key).

As per claim 9, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 4 wherein said recipient authentication data entry field is adapted to accept a personal identification number (PIN) from said mobile recipient (p.7, line 1, account number).

As per claim 10, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 4 wherein the SMS business message further comprises:

- a first recipient data entry field associated with said response indicator label, wherein said first recipient data entry field is adapted to allow a response to be inserted by a first mobile recipient (p. 7, line 25, username); and
- a second recipient data entry field associated with said authentication indicator label, wherein said second recipient data entry field is adapted to allow a response to be inserted by a second mobile recipient (p. 7, line 25, username, password).

As per claim 11, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the generating of the at least one encoded categorization SMS business message comprises:

an encoding template which include categorization meta data defining a categorisation of SMS business messages, wherein:

- the categorization represents a specific businesses intended usage (p.1, line 25, telephone banking);
- categorization meta data provides a definition of the categorization (Fig. 2, balance inquiry); and
- the categorization meta data is parsable by a data processing system for generating SMS business messages (col.2, lines 1-3, transferring, short message type messages).

As per claim 12, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 11 wherein the encoding template further comprises:

- a message entry field for insertion of a message entry of full SMS message length for access by said mobile recipient, wherein (p.4, line 22, short character string);
- said template provides an additional field in said SMS business message for categorization meta data (p.4, line 24, a header part); and
- said meta data provides instructions for encoding a business intended usage of an SMS business message (p.5, line 19-20, information needed, command part, interpreted to mean).

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As per claim 13, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 12 wherein said meta data includes instructions for dispatching said SMS business message including instructions selected from:

- a message priority (p.7, line 10, a code, particular reply relates to);
- a delivery time (p.8, line 32, time);
- a number of recipients (p.7, line 13, user);
- a delivery channel (p.7, line 5-7, TCP/IP, short message service center, mobile switching center, base station);
- a need for confirmation (p.8, line 29, acknowledge) ;
- a need for authentication (p.8, line 22, username, password);
- a need for encryption (p.11, line 2-3, public key, secret key); and
- an intended web application to handle a response (Fig. 1, self service unit).

As per claim 14, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 12 wherein said meta data includes instructions for identifying a software application intended to handle a response to said SMS business message (Fig. 1, self service unit; p.6, line 29, database language).

As per claim 15, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

- receiving in a server a SMS response message sent from said mobile recipient in response to the sending of said at least one encoded categorized SMS business message (Fig. 1, user interface server; p.8, line 16-18, short message);

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- decoding an encryption string within said SMS response message with an appropriate key to verify that said response message is directed to said server (p.11, line 7, decrypts);
- extracting identification from said SMS response message for processing information in said response (p.8, line 24, identified) ;
- identifying and obtaining a corresponding inbound template for said SMS response message from said server (p.8, line 24, authorized to use); and
- parsing said SMS response message with said inbound template to extract incoming data and incoming instructions contained in said SMS response message, if any, for processing said data and instructions (p.7, line 17, command; p.8, line 29, reply creates an acknowledge message).

As per claim 16, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 15, further comprising: forwarding said extracted incoming data and incoming instructions to an application server for processing (p.8, line 29, reply creates an acknowledge message).

As per claim 17, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 16 wherein said SMS response message includes:

- an encryption string encoded with an encoding key (p.10. line 30, encryption, public key) ;
- identification information of a software application capable of processing said SMS response message (Fig. 1, self service unit; p.6, line 29, database language); and
- user authentication information (p.8, line 22, username, password).

As per claim 18, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 17 wherein:

- said server has access to said encoding key (p.10, line 29-30, encryption, public key); and
- said server has access to said inbound template (p.7, line 31-35, payment template).

As per claim 19, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 2, further comprising:

- receiving in a server the at least one request sent from the mobile recipient as an SMS response message sent from said mobile recipient in response to the sending of said at least one encoded categorized SMS business message (Fig. 1, user interface server); and
- tracking in a response tracking database said received SMS response message (Fig. 2. p.6, line 29-30, database language, response).

As per claim 20, Lahti further discloses the method of claim 19, further comprising:

- identifying and parsing said received SMS response message using an inbound template selected from an inbound template database; (p.8, line 22-24, identified; line 29, acknowledge, p. 7, line 31-35, payment template) ; and
- processing said received SMS response message and forwarding the processed SMS response message to a software application to invoke a command in said data processing system (p.11, line 5, encrypt, sent; p.5, line 24-30, where T is a one-character command part).

As per claim 21, Lahti discloses a system to generate a SMS business message for delivery to a mobile recipient, comprising:

a server which includes :

- message encoding engine to generate an encoded SMS business message from information provided by the data collection interface, and corresponding to the selection by the mobile recipient of the at least one SMS inbound template, using an encoding template such that the SMS business message is a categorized SMS message formatted for processing by a data processing system (Fig.1, banking application computer; p.7, lines 26-31, payment template); and
- a dispatcher runtime processor to process said encoded SMS business message for transmission over a network to the mobile recipient (Fig.3, p.7, lines 26-33, transferred as a short message, user terminal).

However, Lahti does not explicitly disclose

- data collection interface to accept outgoing instructions and outgoing data for the mobile recipient in response to the mobile recipient having selected at least one of a plurality of SMS inbound templates from a list sent to the mobile recipient by the system.

Kleindienst teaches multi-modal messaging to allow user to compose, send and retrieve messages using speech or GUI or message templates which are stored in a library of message templates in mobile phones. Users can personalize their messages using the collection of message templates by category and keyword to fit their social interaction need. (Abstract, Fig. 2, Fig. 43, item 43, 44, 45, 49, 50, [0010], composing a message

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responsive to the user input using one or more message templates, and forwarding the message to a target recipient using a messaging protocol; [0011], the message templates are grouped into one or more categories or sub-categories, wherein each category and sub-category comprises one or more keyword; [0035], Table 1; [0036], Table 2; [0085], select the type of message to send, SMS, by mobile).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Lahti by including the list of predefined message templates that drive most of the messages and limit the grammars and vocabulary errors to input and encode short message easier, less time consuming and less burdensome, as per teachings of Kleindienst.

As per claim 22, Lahti further discloses a computer program product directly loadable into an internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for performing, when said product is executed on a computer, a method including :

- receiving at least one request sent from the mobile recipient in response to the sending of at least one encoded categorized SMS business message to perform a business transaction in a data processing system (Fig.3, p.7, lines 26-33, payment template; transferred as a short message); and

However, Lahti does not explicitly disclose

- sending a list of a plurality of available inbound templates for a SMS business message to a mobile recipient;

- receiving from the mobile recipient a selection of at least one of the available inbound templates from the list;
- generating at least one encoded categorized SMS business message in response to and corresponding to the selection received from the mobile recipient such that the generated at least one encoded categorized SMS business message includes a corresponding inbound template;
- sending the generated at least one encoded categorized SMS business message to the mobile recipient; and

Kleindienst teaches multi-modal messaging to allow user to compose, send and retrieve messages using speech or GUI or message templates which are stored in a library of message templates in mobile phones. Users can personalize their messages using the collection of message templates by category and keyword to fit their social interaction need. (Abstract, Fig. 2, Fig. 43, item 43, 44, 45, 49, 50, [0010], composing a message responsive to the user input using on or more message templates, and forwarding the message to a target recipient using a messaging protocol; [0011], the message templates are grouped into one or more categories or sub-categories, wherein each category and sub-category comprises one or more keyword; [0035], Table 1; [0036], Table 2; [0085], select the type of message to send, SMS, by mobile).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Lahti by including the list of predefined message templates that drive most of the messages and limit the grammars and vocabulary errors to input and

encore short message easier, less time consuming and less burdensome, as per teachings of Kleindienst.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 23, 24-27, 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Lahti et al. (hereinafter Lahti, International Pub. No. WO 98/42173).

As per claim 23, Lahti discloses a method for processing an incoming e-commerce SMS response message received by a server from a mobile recipient responding to an outgoing e-commerce SMS message, comprising:

- receiving said SMS response message (p.8, line 16-18, short message);
- decoding an encryption string included within said SMS response message with an appropriate key to verify that said response message is directed to said server (p.11, line 7, decrypts);
- extracting identification from said SMS response message for processing information included in said response (p.8, line 24, identified);
- identifying and obtaining from a database a corresponding inbound message template for said response message from said server (p.6, line 29-33, database language balance inquiry to a banking application computer which in response to the

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inquiry returns the balance requested; p. 7, line 15-230, self-service unit produces a so-called payment template; p.8, line 24, authorized to use); and

- parsing said SMS response message with said inbound message template to extract data and instructions contained in said response message, if any, for processing said data and instructions (p.7, line 17, command; p.8, line 29, reply creates an acknowledge message).

As per claim 24, Lahti discloses an SMS commerce message format for use in sending a commerce message over a network to a mobile recipient, comprising:

- a message text entry field for alerting a mobile recipient about a commerce event identified in the message text entry field (p.2, line 12, banking service; Examiner Note; as "commerce" is a non-functional descriptive, no patentable weight given to "commerce");
- an encryption string entry field (p.3, lines 25-26, user name, password).
- a response indicator label (p.5, line 20, command);
- a recipient data entry field associated with said response indicator label (p.3, line 25, username);
- a recipient authentication indicator label (p.5, line 20, command); and,
- a recipient authentication data entry field associated with said recipient authentication indicator label (p.3, line 26, password).

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As per claim 25, Lahti further discloses the SMS message format of claim 24 wherein said encryption string entry field is adapted to accept communication session identification data (p.6, line 24, verifies; lines 25-26, identified).

As per claim 26, Lahti further discloses the SMS message format of claim 24 wherein said encryption string entry field is adapted to accept security data (p.10, line 33, receiver's secret key).

As per claim 27, Lahti further discloses the SMS message format of claim 24 wherein said recipient authentication data entry field is adapted to accept a PIN number from said recipient (p.7, line 1, account number).

As per claim 28, Lahti discloses a computer program product comprising software code which is directly loadable into a memory of a digital computer and which when executed by the digital computer includes a SMS universal encoding template for encoding outbound SMS business messages for a data processing system for transmission over a network; comprising:

- categorization meta data defining a commerce categorization of outbound SMS messages such that said commerce categorization of outbound SMS messages represent a specific intended usage of the outbound SMS message (Fig. 2, balance inquiry; p.1, line 25, telephone banking; Examiner Note; "commerce" is a non-functional descriptive, no patentable weight given to "commerce"); wherein
- said categorization meta data provides definitions of messages and instructions that are parsable into runtime objects used by said data processing system to generate

SMS business messages (p.2, lines 1-3, transferring, short message type messages).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 9-12, 15-17, 19-24, and 28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 9-12, 15-17, 19-24, and 28, have been considered but are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument on claim 28 which is defined in such vague and broad terms that leave the one of the ordinary skill in doubt the meaning of the technical feature the invention refers to, and unclear in the scope of the claimed subject matter. Examiner maintain that "definitions", "instructions", "parsable", "runtime objects" which are not part of the subject-matter of the claim. The subject matter of claim 28 covers any kind of template which characterizes meta-data which provide the suitable instructions for the data processing system to process, which is **not new** with respect to the common knowledge in the field of data processing. Therefore, Lahti has disclosed the kind of template which comprises some kind of data for providing some kind of instructions to some kind of data processing system to generate the SMS message. (Fig. 2, balance inquiry; p.1, line 25, telephone banking; p.2, lines 1-3, transferring, short message type messages).

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Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's Disclosure.

- Wells et al. (US 6,125,281) discloses real-time SMS application.
- Wei et al. (US 2002/0116450 A1, 2002/0123359 A1) teaches search templates for a web portal search engine of the internet. Each template is capable of use by a mobile user, and in the form of a search index card to be used to compose an alphanumeric message, and receive message.
- Chern et al. (US 6,381,465 B1) discloses a monitoring and alert system includes a wireless device that sends a monitoring request and generate the SMS alert message with attached advertisement.
- Hamalainen et al. (WO 01/69436 A1) provides interactive question-based applications over communication network.
- Mattila et al. (US 7,159,186 B2) supports a user interface of a terminal.
- Serbetcoiouglu et al. (US 5,719,918) teaches a transaction handling system for use in cellular telephone network using Short Messages.

- O'Neil et al. (US 2004/0224693 A1) teaches multiple access internet portals with wireless market place system. The wireless internet server routes internet content from a content provider to a plurality of platform gateways.
- Pegaz-Paquet et al. (us 7,177,837 B2) teaches managing accounting and billing e-commerce transactions by placing a call or sending text message.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUN LI whose telephone number is (571) 270-5489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30AM-5:00PM Eastern Standard Time. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on 571-272- 6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

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273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SL

Patent Examiner, AU 3622

/Eric W. Stamber/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3622